

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

March 24, 1998      LB 1229

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now, if we're going to have confidence that the school districts will do the right thing because the program has such value and the children are entitled to it, do you not have as much confidence that they, on their own, will implement the right kind of or quality of program? You don't have confidence that they'll do that without being mandated?

SENATOR BOHLKE: Senator Chambers, there's been a history of the types of programs that are now recognized as not being the best in this particular area. And so this is not meant to go for extracurricular activities. This is to go for curriculum.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But, isn't there language that describes the quality of program that would have to be presented? There are standards, in other words, that will have to be met in order for a program to be acceptable enough to qualify the district for this matching money, is that true?

SENATOR BOHLKE: There will be standards, yes.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Why do we impose standards and not just trust these school district people who are so honorable and interested in the welfare of the children? Is it that we'll trust them with a match and we'll trust them with gasoline, but we won't trust them with a match and gasoline together?

SENATOR BOHLKE: Senator Chambers, we've been long about setting standards at the state level for all programs, and certainly with those that are currently offered in the classroom, so this is not departing from what we already do.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Don't we set those standards because we don't trust the local districts to do what they need to do as far as quality?

SENATOR BOHLKE: They're set as a goal, Senator Chambers,...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But isn't...